

District 4 Redistricting Community Meeting

Berryessa Community Center
3050 Berryessa Road, San José, CA 95132
Tuesday, March 8, 2011
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

MEETING SYNOPSIS

1. Introduction

- Kansen Chu, District 4 Councilmember
- Marc Liebman, Berryessa Union School District Superintendent and Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council President
- Mike Flaughter, Redistricting Advisory Commission Member – District 4 Representative
- Terry Christensen, San José State University Professor
- Bill Hughes, Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council Member – Redistricting Subcommittee Chair
- *Attendees:*
 - 150 community members
 - Richard Santos, Santa Clara Valley Water District
 - Sheila Ngo, Office of Assemblymember Nora Campos
 - Lara McCabe, Office of Supervisor Dave Cortese
 - Daisy Chu, Office of Supervisor George Shirakawa
 - Khoa Nguyen, Berryessa Union School District Board President
 - Patty McDonald, Northwood Elementary School Principal
 - Nora Ho, Ruskin Elementary School Principal
 - Bobbie Infelise, Summerdale Elementary School Principal
 - Rafael Sabic, District 4 Neighborhood Commissioner
 - Linda Locke, District 4 Neighborhood Commissioner
 - Stephanie Fong, Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

2. Professor Terry Christensen – General Redistricting Process

- The redistricting process occurs every 10 years, after new population figures from the census are released by the U.S. Census Bureau.
- This spring, the City of San José will receive data from the 2010 Census which will trigger the City's requirement to redraw boundaries for City Council Districts.
- The population figures inform the City of San José where population has grown and adjust accordingly.
- The boundaries determine which Council District represents each resident and ensures equal representation for San José residents.
- Redistricting takes place not only at the city level but also at the county, state, congressional, school, community college, and water district level.
- Not every part of the city has grown significantly.

- Redistricting at the city level provides more flexibility and allows for the most amount of variation – up to 10%. This allows the City to take into account school district boundaries, neighborhood groups, as well as natural boundaries when re-drawing lines.
- The changes made during the redistricting process in 2000 were minimal and we can anticipate more changes this time around.
- We need to even out growth between districts. Certain areas such as District 1 and 6 have not grown much in population and are limited in the direction they can grow to even out population numbers among the 10 districts. Once lines change for one district, you can expect a domino effect throughout the city district lines.
- In 2000, the Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council worked hard to ensure that the Berryessa Union School District was kept within one city council district.
- Another factor to keep in mind when drawing boundaries are where businesses are located and being mindful not to split up businesses. This not only affects who the council district representative will be but also who is responsible for taking care of issues such as code enforcement. It is important to keep businesses together so that they can continue to work together.
- Redistricting can affect ethnic composition and party lines. This will not affect the city as much as at the state level.
- It is important to be engaged early on and it is encouraging to see so many people here tonight for the first community meeting in the City. District 4 continues to be a very well-organized community.

- **QUESTIONS:**

- **Will future population growth numbers be taken into account? North San José expects approximately 30,000 in future growth.** We can only base on the current population data, taking up to a 10% variance, and cannot base it on future growth projections.
- **How will this affect the school district?** The redistricting process will not change the school district boundaries, but it may split up the council district each school will fall under. Only a few school districts in the area will go through their own redistricting process. *Marc Liebman announced that the Berryessa Union School District passed a resolution at their board meeting on Monday, February 7, 2011 advocating for the City to keep the school district in one council district.*
- **Will this affect funding for the schools?** It will not affect funding for the school district.
- **How will population growth affect the redistricting process?** There will be changes all around. Districts 1, 6, and 9 had the lowest growth changes. By redrawing lines to equalize the population among all the council districts, it will create a domino effect across districts.
- **Is the redistricting process approved by the City Council or Commissioners?** The City Council will receive the recommendations from the commission and will ultimately make the final decision on determining the new boundaries.
- **Where can we go for more information?** You can visit the City of San José's Redistricting website at:
<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/redistricting/2011redistricting.asp>.
- **When will the commission be making their recommendation?** By June. The City Charter requires the Commission to make their recommendation within 120

days. The City Council must enact an ordinance establishing the new Council District boundaries no later than October 31, 2011.

3. Mike Flaughter – Redistricting Process

- On Tuesday, January 11, 2011, the City Council appointed 11 community members to the City's Redistricting Advisory Commission.
- The commission consists of one member from each Council District.
- The commission held their first meeting on February 7, 2011.
- Councilmember Chu selected Mike Flaughter as the District 4 representative on the City's Redistricting Advisory Commission.
- The commission will be receiving data from the 2010 Census to redraw boundaries for city council districts.
- The next meeting will take place on Monday, March 14, 2011 at City Hall.
- There was minimum change the last time the City went through the redistricting process and we will be seeing more changes this time around.
- This is a process that needs to be conducted in the public.
- Smaller council districts need to absorb more area to increase their population. Once lines start to move, there will be changes seen all over.
- The goal is to average a population of approximately 100,000 per council district.
- The next Redistricting Advisory Commission meeting on Monday, March 14, 2011 is critical because the commission will be finalizing the criteria used for the process and what priorities will take precedent.

4. Marc Liebman – Berryessa Union School District

- School district boundaries do not change by population.
- The Berryessa Union School District will not be going through a redistricting process.
- Changes to City Council Districts will not affect the school your child attends.

5. Bill Hughes – State Redistricting Process

- District 4 is currently split among Congressional Districts 15 and 16; State Assembly Districts 20, 22, 23, and 24; and State Senate Districts 10 and 13.
- This has greatly diminished our community's voice.
- The Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council is committed to contributing to the redistricting plans for the City Council Districts.
- The Berryessa Union School District is split between Districts 4 and 5 and the Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council is motivated to uniting our community and keeping our district intact.

6. What can residents do?

- Stay engaged in the process by attending future public meetings.
- Provide your feedback and concerns to Councilmember Chu by emailing district4@sanjoseca.gov.

7. Adjourn

For more information:

City of San José's Redistricting Website:

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/redistricting/2011redistricting.asp>

Redistricting Criteria:

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/redistricting/2011redistricting/criteria.asp>

Meeting Agendas:

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/redistricting/2011redistricting/agenda.asp>

Redistricting Advisory Commission Members:

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/redistricting/2011redistricting/advisorycommission.asp>

Facebook:

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